

a remote intelligent communication (RIC) unit contained within a casing of the electronic apparatus and including a control circuit that is separate from utilization circuitry for normal operations of the electronic apparatus and that enables tracking of the electronic apparatus, said RIC unit operable to receive a signal transmitted from an interrogator, to determine whether the signal is intended for the anti-theft device and whether the signal includes a shut-off command and, if so, to produce a shut-off signal in response; and

a shut-off unit coupled with a power source of the electronic apparatus, said shut-off unit in a shut-off state preventing a flow of electricity via the power source in accordance with said shut-off signal.

6. (Twice Amended) A method of operating an anti-theft device in cooperation with an electronic apparatus, the anti-theft device including a remote intelligent communication (RIC) unit contained within a casing of said electronic apparatus and including a control circuit that is separate from utilization circuitry for normal operations of the electronic apparatus and that receives a signal broadcast from an interrogator, determines whether the signal is intended for the anti-theft device and whether the signal includes a shut-off command and, if so, produces a shut-off signal in response, and a shut-off unit comprised of components of the RIC unit and coupled with a power source of the electronic apparatus, the method comprising:

(a) tracking the electronic apparatus with the remote intelligent communication (RIC) unit; and

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(b) preventing with the shut-off unit a flow of electricity via the power source

in accordance with the shut-off signal.

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11. (Twice Amended) An anti-theft device for shutting off an operable electronic apparatus subsequent to the electronic apparatus being stolen from its owner, the anti-theft device comprising:

a communication unit incorporated within the casing of the electronic apparatus and comprising:

a receiver for receiving a signal transmitted from an interrogator, and

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a control circuit that is separate from utilization circuitry for normal operations of the electronic apparatus and that is coupled to the receiver for determining whether the received signal is intended for the anti-theft device and, if so, for determining whether the signal includes an electronic apparatus shut-off command generated by the interrogator in response to a notification from the owner that the electronic apparatus has been stolen, and, if so, for producing a shut-off signal, and

a power blocking circuit responsive to the shut-off signal for placing the electronic apparatus in a shut-off state by blocking the flow of electricity from a power source of the electronic apparatus.

12. (Amended) The anti-theft device as claimed in claim 11, wherein the communication unit further comprises a transmitter and the control circuit also produces